
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM TO
CREATE A NORTH SHORE BEACH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE AREA OF
THE NORTH SHORE OF OAHU THAT STRETCHES FROM THE KAWAIILOA TO
WAIALEE AHUPUAA.

1 WHEREAS, the northwest-facing shore of the north shore of
2 Oahu, stretching from the Kawaiiloa to Waialeale ahupuaa, is of
3 primary importance to state residents and visitors for its
4 beautiful sandy beaches, famous surf breaks, recreational
5 opportunities, marine resources, wildlife, and vistas; and
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7 WHEREAS, several important north shore beaches are at
8 increasing risk of erosion and deterioration from a combination
9 of high energy waves, winter surf, tsunami events, sea level
10 rise due to climate change, and intensive use by people
11 accessing the shoreline; and
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13 WHEREAS, most of the shoreline beach parks and coastal
14 access areas along the north shore of Oahu have visibly
15 inadequate infrastructure to handle the high number of residents
16 and the millions of visitors who are attracted to these beaches
17 each year, causing additional erosion and damage to natural
18 resources; and
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20 WHEREAS, recently, homes in the Ke Nui Road area on the
21 north shore of Oahu have been damaged and are still at risk from
22 high surf and eroding beaches, causing significant disruption
23 and calls for government action in the short- and long-term for
24 beachside homeowners; and
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26 WHEREAS, some key sections of Kamehameha Highway, including
27 sections along Laniakea Beach and Chun's Reef, are currently
28 subject to erosion due to high surf, storm events, and loss of
29 sand; and
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1 WHEREAS, The Pupukea Marine Life Conservation District,
2 which stretches from Waimea Bay to Shark's Cove, is experiencing
3 high levels of shoreline erosion due to poor management,
4 severely eroded walkways due to lack of infrastructure and
5 planning, and parking lot and road collapse due to sink holes
6 and over-use; and

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8 WHEREAS, other areas along the coastline are at risk from
9 the lack of overall planning for protection of the beaches,
10 beach access areas, and shoreline uses; and

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12 WHEREAS, Hawaii's beaches and coastline are part of the
13 public land trust, held by the State for the benefit of the
14 people, and the State has a fiduciary duty to affirmatively
15 protect beaches and coastal access; and

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17 WHEREAS, the long-term protection of the northwest-facing
18 north shore beaches from the Kawaihoa to Waialeale ahupuaa, which
19 are subject to a common wave regime and share common beach
20 erosion characteristics, requires a comprehensive assessment and
21 modern management plan that recognizes the risks of climate
22 change and sea level rise; and

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24 WHEREAS, the large number of government, business, private,
25 and community entities involved in the north shore of Oahu would
26 benefit from participating in the development and implementation
27 of a comprehensive beach management plan for this vulnerable
28 area; and

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30 WHEREAS, in 2010, the University of Hawaii Sea Grant
31 College Program successfully produced a beach and dune
32 management plan for Kailua Beach, which provided an extensive
33 analysis of the current state of this important beach and
34 recommended management measures for federal, state, and local
35 government, as well as community partners, in response to
36 threats such as climate change and sea level rise; and

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38 WHEREAS, the beach and dune management plan for Kailua
39 Beach serves as a useful prototype for the implementation of
40 beach management plans at other locations and demonstrates the
41 effectiveness of location-specific beach management policies and



1 practices that would greatly benefit the north shore of Oahu;
2 now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
6 Session of 2015, that the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College
7 Program is requested to, over a two-year period, create a north
8 shore beach management plan for the area of the north shore of
9 Oahu that stretches from the Kawaihoa to Waialeale ahupuaa; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Sea
12 Grant College Program is requested to include substantial
13 community input in developing the management plan; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
16 the management plan consider innovative means to address erosion
17 of private property, including recommendations to set homes and
18 vehicular traffic back from the beach, and to address
19 recreational access, vistas, and traffic issues relating to the
20 receding coastline; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
23 the management plan include:

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25 (1) Long- and short-term planning and climate change
26 scenarios;
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28 (2) Temporary and emergency erosion management;
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30 (3) Beach and dune management techniques based upon
31 sediment transport;
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33 (4) Shoreline public access management and foot traffic
34 control;
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36 (5) Beach and dune nourishment;
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38 (6) Longer-term coastal land use strategies;
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40 (7) Shoreline protection and erosion management;
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(8) Shoreline setbacks, rolling easements, and land acquisition;

(9) Public park expansion, land swaps, and transfer of development rights; and

(10) Innovative means to adapt to coastal hazards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program is requested to report its interim findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016, and submit a final report, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President and Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii and the Director of the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program.

OFFERED BY:

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